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# WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1949

To the Chairman & Members of the Whaley Bridge
Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the district during the year ended 31st December, 1949.

### Statistics & Social Conditions in the Area

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Total Area of Whaley Bridge Urban District (in acres) | - | 3,487. |
| Estimated Population (mid 1949) | - | 5,191. |
| Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1949 | - | 1,783. |
| Sum represented by a penny rate. | - | £126. |
| Rateable Value. | - | £33,730. |

### Extracts from Vital Statistics for 1949

| | M. | F. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Live Births, Legitimate. | 24. | 38. | 62. |
| Illegitimate. | 2. | 1. | 3. |
| Still Births. | 1. | 4. | 5. |
| Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population | | - | 12·5 |
| " " " " " " (In England & Wales) | | - | 16·7 |
| Still Birth Rate per 1000 (total live & still) births | | - | 71·4 |
| Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population | | - | 12·3 |
| " " " " " " (In England & Wales) | | - | 11·7 |
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes. | | - | Nil. |

| Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age. | M. | F. |
|---|---|---|
| Legitimate. | 0. | 0. |
| Illegitimate. | 0. | 0. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Death Rate - All Infants per 1000 live births. | - | Nil. |
| Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births. | - | Nil. |
| Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births | - | Nil. |

| | M. | F. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 1. | 8. | 9. |
| " " Measles (all ages) | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| " " Whooping Cough (all ages). | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| " " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | 0. | 0. | 0. |

The chief occupations of the district are cotton weaving, cotton bleaching and calico printing. These occupations have no pernicious effect on the health of the employees and the district as a whole has maintained a good standard of health.

| Causes of death are classified as follows:- | M. | F. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tuberculosis. | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| Influenza. | 1. | 0. | 1. |
| Cancer. | 1. | 8. | 9. |
| Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions. | 5. | 6. | 11. |
| Heart Disease. | 15. | 9. | 24. |
| Other Dis. of Circ. System. | 1. | 1. | 2. |
| Bronchitis. | 2. | 2. | 4. |
| Pneumonia. | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| Other Resp. Diseases. | 2. | 0. | 2. |
| Appendicitis. | 1. | 0. | 1. |
| Diarrhoea. | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| Ulcer of Stomach. | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| Other Digestive Diseases. | 2. | 0. | 2. |
| Nephritis. | 1. | 1. | 2. |
| Congen. Debility, Premature Birth, etc. | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| Road Traffic Accidents. | 1. | 0. | 1. |
| Other Violent Causes. | 0. | 1. | 1. |
| All other causes. | 2. | 2. | 4. |
| | 34. | 30. | 64. |

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Inspections under the various Acts appertaining to Public Health were systemically carried out and any appropriate action taken when necessary.

Water Supply:

The water supply of the district is chiefly composed of upland waters collected and distributed from service reservoirs in different parts of the district, namely, Diglee, Foxhome, Stone Heads, Nook, Lechead and Taxal. All these service reservoirs were emptied and cleaned out during the year.

The number of premises supplied with Council's water was 1595 while 154 premises in the northern part of the district were supplied from the Stockport Corporation main which runs through the district. Thirty four houses only have a private water supply and this total is mainly composed of farms.

All houses using the Council's water have a piped supply laid on to the premises.

Bacteriological analyses were undertaken on all sources of supply and in all cases the water was found to be of good quality for drinking purposes.

Owing to the excessive dry summer and the erection of a further 43 houses during the year great care had to be exercised in the distribution of water to avoid any curtailment of supply. It was noted that although notices requiring restrictions in the use of water were circulated, the consumption of water during the drought period was as great as at any time of the year. Every effort was made to prevent wastage and constant supervision of reserves had to be maintained to enable the various parts of the area to be adequately supplied.

This constant supply to all properties could not have been maintained without assistance from the Stockport Corporation who generously agreed to supply water through meter from their 4" main at Furness Vale. This Council took 824,500 gallons of water from the Stockport main and this water was used to supplement the other supplies.

The following extension to the Council's Water main was carried out to cater for building development:-

Williamson Road, Whaley Bridge: Existing main extended to Hockerley Lane involving the laying of 239 yards of 3" C.I. Spun Pipes.

Sewerage:

The sewage is conveyed through the Council's sewers to the sewage disposal works at Furness Vale, the treatment being carried out under the control of the Whaley Bridge & District Joint Sewerage Board.

No complaints have been received concerning the discharged effluent into the River Goyt. The sewers have been maintained in good condition, cleansing and rodding being carried out when necessary.

A 10% test bait of manholes was carried out each half-year to ascertain the degree of infestation of sewers by rats. Only very minor "takes" were found in isolated areas. The manholes affected have been"poison baited" and no further infestations have been noted.

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An extension of the sewerage system involving the laying of 292 lin. yds of 6" sewer was undertaken at Williamson Road, Whaley Bridge. This extension was necessary for the development of the site.

Refuse Collection & Disposal:

The refuse collection service was undertaken throughout the year by direct labour. This service was not maintained as regular as one would desire due to the fact that continued difficulty is experienced in obtaining sufficient and suitable labour to carry out this most essential duty.

## Factories Act.

Sanitary conditions have been maintained at all factories and workshops in the district. Periodical inspections of premises coming within the jurisdiction of this Act have been made and satisfactory provision of means of escape in case of fire is provided.

## Infectious and other Diseases.

The district was fairly free from infectious diseases. No cases of malaria or dysentery were notified and your district was free from any influenza epidemic during the year. One case of diphtheria was notified. Two cases of polio-myelitis were notified and both cases were removed to hospital for treatment.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

| Notifiable Diseases. | Total all ages. | 0 - 1 | 1 - 3 | 3 - 5 | 5 - 10 | 10 - 15 | 15 - 20 | 20 - 35 | 35 - 45 | 45 - 60 | 60 & Over | Hosp. Cases. | Deaths |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Smallpox. | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever. | 2. | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| Diphtheria. | 1. | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid). | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia. | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Pneumonia. | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Dis. generally notifiable:- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Erysipelas. | 1. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Dysentery. | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Opthalmia Neonatorum. | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles. | 21. | 1 | - | 3 | 15 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough. | 45. | - | 15 | 11 | 18 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever. | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Polio-Myelitis. | 2. | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | - |
| Other Dis. notifiable locally. | Nil. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals. | 72. | 1 | 15 | 14 | 35 | 4 | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | 5 | - |

Tuberculosis - New Cases & Mortality, 1949

| | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Respiratory. | | Non-Resp. | | Respiratory. | | Non. Resp. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - 5. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - 15. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - 25. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 - 35. | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 35 - 45. | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 45 - 55. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 - 65. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 & Over. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - |

In conclusion, I would like to tender my thanks to the Officials of the Council for the assistance so ably and willingly rendered in connection with my Public Health duties throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRED GARNET ALLAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

28th June, 1950.

# WHALEY BRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1949

To the Chairman and Members of the Whaley Bridge
Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the sanitary conditions and a brief summary of work done during the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Housing:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of houses in district - 31st December, 1948. | 1740. |
| New Houses erected in 1949:- | |
| By Private Enterprise. | 5. |
| By Local Authority. | 38. |
| Total number of houses in district at 31st Dec. 1949. | 1783. |

### Closet Accommodation in the Area

| | |
|---|---|
| Houses with pail closet accommodation. | 69. |
| Houses with privy accommodation. | 33. |
| Houses with W.C. closet accommodation. | 1681. |

The houses with pail closet accommodation are in the following areas:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Canal Row, Furness Vale. | - 18 (no sewer available) |
| Station Road, Furness Vale. | - 7 (no sewer available) |
| Buxton Road, Furness Vale. | - 9 (sewer available) |
| Cadster. | - 14 (no sewer) |
| Bridge Street, Whaley Bridge. | - 2 (too low for sewer) |
| Stone Heads. | - 3 (no sewer available) |
| Fernilee. | - 14 ( -do- ) |
| Other outlying premises. | - 2 ( -do- ) |

The houses with privy midden accommodation are thus situated:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Fernilee Village. | - 11 (no sewer available) |
| Outlying Farms. | - 22 ( -do- ) |

### Sanitary Inspections

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of inspections made under Public Health & Housing Acts. | - 876 |
| Defects or Nuisances:- | |
| Number discovered. | - 472. |
| Number abated with or without Notice. | - 461. |
| Number of Notices served:- | |
| Informal Notices. | - 260. |
| Statutory Notices. | - 6. |
| Legal Proceedings. | - Nil. |

| Details of inspections:- | Inspections. | Nuisances abated. |
|---|---|---|
| Defective Closet Accommodation. | 106. | 39. |
| Defective Ashbins or Ashpits. | 83. | 58. |
| Drainage Defects. | 167. | 111. |
| Defective Roofs, Gutters, etc. | 68. | 52. |
| Defective Sinks. | 25. | 15. |
| Defective Windows. | 25. | 12. |
| Dampness in Dwellings. | 53. | 37. |
| Other Miscellaneous Housing Defects. | 25. | 4. |
| Offensive Accumulations. | 23. | 5. |
| Urinals. | 57. | 4. |
| Water in cellars. | 11. | 2. |
| Foul condition of houses. | 12. | 1. |
| Animals improperly kept. | 14. | - |
| Water Supply. | 117. | 81. |
| Dairies, Cowsheds, etc. | 82. | 5. |
| Bakehouses. | 12. | - |
| Other Inspections. | 89 | 40. |

## Houses disinfected.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| After Diphtheria. | - | 1. |
| After Scarlet Fever. | - | 2. |
| After other diseases. | - | 9. |

## Food Inspections.

During the year the following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Condensed Milk. | 68 tins. | Carrots. | 36 tins. |
| Unsweetened Milk. | 17 tins. | Peas. | 16 tins. |
| Beans & Tomato sauce | 7 tins. | Veg. Soup. | 1 tin. |
| Peeled Tomatoes. | 1 tin. | Salmon. | 2 tins. |
| Corned Beef.(6 lbs) | 4 tins. | Canned Grapes. | 5 tins. |
| Eggs. | 360. | Salad Cream. | 3 jars. |
| Butter. | 11¼ lbs. | Veal Loaf. | 1 tin. |
| Minced Beef Loaf. | 7 tins. | Snock. | 5 tins. |
| Corned Mutton.(6 lbs) | 1 tin. | Beef & Veg. | 2 tins. |
| Danish Pork. | 6 tins. | Celery Soup. | 3 tins. |
| Luncheon Meat. | 1 tin. | Cheese. | 12½ lbs. |
| Ham. | 2¾ lbs. | Peaches. | 1 tin. |
| | | Scotch Broth. | 1 tin. |

## Refuse Collection & Disposal.

The refuse collection service during the year was not maintained as efficiently as desired mainly due to the difficulty in obtaining sufficient and suitable staff. It was estimated that approximately 6,448 cub. yds. of refuse was collected and disposed of at the two refuse tips, (representing approximately 1,934 tons). The disposal arrangements were not satisfactory and I regret that the Council did not adopt the principle of controlled tipping.

16 tons 1½ cwts. of Waste Paper were collected and sold for £69. 10. 7d.

## Milk & Dairies Orders.

As from 1st October 1949, the duties of registration and inspection of milk producing premises were transferred from Local Authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture. Up to that time regular and periodical inspections were made of all registered premises and the standards were generally maintained at a fairly high level.

## Housing.

Steady and constant progress was made in the erection of new houses by the Council and during the year 38 houses were accepted for habitation whilst five private houses were also completed and occupied,

## Water Supplies.

Although the summer months were exceedingly dry no serious curtailment of supply was necessary, largely due to the fact that permission was obtained to take water from the Stockport Corporation main at Furness Vale. It was estimated that the average consumption per head per day increased to 29·8 gallons whilst the total annual water consumption was guaged at 52,560,000 gallons. The constant supply of water could not have been maintained without making the fullest use of the interchangeability of the various sources of supply as the district has a reserve capacity of only 1,892,000 gallons.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McLANE,

Sanitary Inspector.

26th June, 1950.